

terms as president of the F.Q. Sanchez Elementary School Parent Teacher Association, the Guam Beautification Association, and the Guam Society of Norfolk. He has also served as an advisor for the Umatac Youth Organization and as supervisor-coordinator of AHRD summer trainees.

The service dedicated by Mayor Aquiningoc to the nation, the church, the community and the island of Guam has truly earned him a place in our hearts. I join the mayor's wife, Maria, who, along with his children and their spouses, namely, Leslie and Lourdes, Ruby and Anthony, Mark and JoAnn, and Rodney and Theresa, and their grandchildren Roland, Lauren, Brittany, Nicolas, Daisy, Benny, Teresa, Paul, Marion, Anika, Desirae, Mariah and Camaria in proudly celebrating his career and his achievements. Si Yu'os Ma'ase, Mayor Aquiningoc.

IN HONOR OF MR. DIONICIO
MORALES

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2000

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, it is with utmost pleasure and privilege that I rise today to recognize a wonderful American, Mr. Dionicio Morales, for his pioneering efforts as a leader within the Mexican American community and

his commitment to improving the lives of others.

As a first-generation American, Dionicio Morales has surpassed social and economic barriers throughout his life, and forever changed the opportunities available to Mexican Americans in this country. Mr. Morales' own life embodies the American dream. Having come from modest roots, as the son of farmworkers who spent many years of his childhood living in a tent, he has become a nationally respected community advocate for over three decades. Specifically, Mr. Morales has served as an advisor to the United States Secretary of Labor, was a Presidential appointee to the President's Committee on Community Relations, and the Advisory Committee of the North America Development Bank, and was a former member of the California State Apprenticeship Committee, the California Employment Development Advisory Committee, the Century Freeway Commission and the United States Senate Task Force on Hispanic Affairs.

The crowning professional achievement of Mr. Morales' life however, was the founding of the Mexican American Opportunity Foundation (MAOF) in 1962. On the eve of the civil rights movement, Mr. Morales was a trailblazer in establishing a structure to empower Mexican Americans to obtain professional training and employment. Mr. Morales has served as the President and CEO of MAOF since 1962, and has grown the organization into a full-service social service entity which currently provides

not just job training but also child care, Head Start programs, English as a second language courses, citizenship classes, family services, and much more.

MAOF has played a pivotal role in the lives of many Mexican Americans and Mr. Morales' contributions have not gone unnoticed. In addition to the many honors and board memberships bestowed upon him, Los Angeles County showed its appreciation to Mr. Morales and MAOF by dedicating "Dionicio Morales Plaza" at Belvedere Park in Los Angeles.

Mr. Speaker, as Mr. Morales embarks upon the next chapter of his life in retirement, it gives me great honor to join those who are honoring him tonight at MAOF's 33rd Annual Aztec Awards Gala in Los Angeles. It is with great pride that I ask my colleagues to join me today in saluting this exceptional American.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2000

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I was unfortunately absent for the rollcall vote on passage of H.R. 3244, the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act Conference Report. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."